Thursday, December 18, 2008

Public Hearings and Possible Actions RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 117

Subject: Conduct a public hearing and consider a resolution authorizing the change in use and conveyance of approximately 741 square feet of land in fee simple to Michael and Linda C. Wetzel through Austin Water Utility's Water Quality Protection Lands located along Wyldwood Drive, in accordance with Sec. 26.001 et seq. of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Junie Plummer 974-7085; Willy Conrad 263-6430; April Thedford 974-7141

Chapter 26 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code provides that the use of park, recreation area, scientific area, wildlife refuge or historic property for non-protected purposes may be approved upon a finding that there is no feasible and prudent alternative and that all reasonable planning to minimize harm to the use of this land has been done.

The requested area consisting of 741 square feet will be conveyed in fee simple to Michael and Linda C. Wetzel which will join the tract to their adjacent 2.72 acre property located on the north side of Wyldwood Drive to allow them to access the property. There are no immediate plans for the 741 square foot parcel which is a narrow strip of land that cannot be used independently under its current configuration. This conveyance does not impact the operations and maintenance of the scientific area known as J17 which is a 261.446 acre tract purchased August 1998. The purchase price is the amount determined to be the fair market value of \$305.

There is no feasible and prudent alternative to the use of the scientific areas which includes all reasonable planning to minimize harm to such lands. The dates of public notification in the Austin American-Statesman are November 23, November 30 and December 7, 2008.